



Texas Department of Insurance

Division of Workers' Compensation

Medical Fee Dispute Resolution, MS-48

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MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name and Address

DOCTORS HOSPITAL OF LAREDO
3255 W PIONEER PARKWAY
ARLINGTON TX 76013

Respondent Name

American Casualty Co of Reading

Carrier's Austin Representative Box

Box Number 47

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-10-2420-01

MFDR Date Received

January 6, 2010

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "...Outpatient Hospital Rule 134.03, HCPS's are payable at 200% of the correct fee schedule allowable."

Amount in Dispute: \$615.62

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "The Carrier asserts that it calculated the allowable reimbursement and paid the correct amount reflected in the EOR/REOR in accordance with the formula elicited in Rule 134.403(f)(1)(a)."

Response Submitted by: Brian J. Judis, 600 N. Pearl, Suite 1450, Dallas, TX 75201

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Date(s) of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
July 1, 2009	Outpatient Hospital Services	\$615.62	\$0.00

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403, titled *Hospital Facility Fee Guideline – Outpatient*, sets out the reimbursement guidelines for facility services provided in an outpatient acute care hospital.
3. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203, titled *Medical Fee Guideline for Professional Services*, sets out the reimbursement guidelines for professional medical services.
4. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.4 requires written notification to health care providers regarding contractual agreements for informal and voluntary networks.
5. 28 Texas Administrative Code §102.4 sets out general rules regarding communications.
6. The services in dispute were reduced/denied by the respondent with the following reason codes:

- 45 – Charge exceeds fee schedule/maximum allowable or contracted/legislated fee arrangement.
- 59 – Processed based on multiple or concurrent procedure rules.
- W1 – Workers Compensation State Fee Schedule Adjustment.

Issues

1. Are the disputed services subject to a contractual agreement between the parties to this dispute?
2. What is the applicable rule for determining reimbursement for the disputed services?
3. What is the recommended payment amount for the services in dispute?
4. Is the requestor entitled to reimbursement?

Findings

1. The insurance carrier reduced or denied disputed services with reason code 45 – Charge exceeds fee schedule/maximum allowable or contracted/legislated fee arrangement..” Review of the submitted information found insufficient documentation to support that the disputed services were subject to a contractual fee arrangement between the parties to this dispute. Nevertheless, on October 6, 2010, the Division requested the respondent to provide a copy of the referenced contract as well as documentation to support notification to the healthcare provider, as required by 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.4, that the healthcare provider had been given access to the contracted fee arrangement. Review of the submitted information finds that the documentation does not support notification to the healthcare provider in the time and manner required.

- The notice does not include the start date and any end date during which the insurance carrier had been given access to the contracted fee arrangement as required by §133.4(d)(2)(B).
- No documentation was found to establish time of notification in accordance with §133.4(f).

The Division concludes that, pursuant to §133.4(g), the insurance carrier is not entitled to pay the health care provider at a contracted fee. Consequently, per §133.4(h), the disputed services will be reviewed for payment in accordance with applicable Division rules and fee guidelines.

2. This dispute relates to facility services performed in an outpatient hospital setting with reimbursement subject to the provisions of 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403, which requires that the reimbursement calculation used for establishing the maximum allowable reimbursement (MAR) shall be the Medicare facility specific amount, including outlier payment amounts, determined by applying the most recently adopted and effective Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS) reimbursement formula and factors as published annually in the Federal Register with the application of minimal modifications as set forth in the rule. Per §134.403(f)(1), the sum of the Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount and any applicable outlier payment amount shall be multiplied by 200 percent, unless a facility or surgical implant provider requests separate reimbursement of implantables. Review of the submitted documentation finds that separate reimbursement for implantables is not applicable.
3. Under the Medicare Outpatient Prospective Payment System (OPPS), each billed service is assigned an Ambulatory Payment Classification (APC) based on the procedure code used, the supporting documentation and the other services that appear on the bill. A payment rate is established for each APC. Depending on the services provided, hospitals may be paid for more than one APC per encounter. Payment for ancillary and supportive items and services, including services that are billed without procedure codes, is packaged into payment for the primary service. A full list of APCs is published quarterly in the OPPS final rules which are publicly available through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) website. Reimbursement for the disputed services is calculated as follows:
 - Procedure code 36415 has a status indicator of A, which denotes services paid under a fee schedule or payment system other than OPPS. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403(h), for outpatient services for which Medicare reimburses using fee schedules other than OPPS, reimbursement is made using the applicable Division fee guideline in effect for that service on the date the service was provided. Facility payment for the technical component of this service is calculated according to the Medical Fee Guideline for Professional Services, §134.203(e)(1). The fee listed for this code in the Medicare Clinical Fee Schedule is \$3.00. This amount multiplied by 2 units is \$6.00. 125% of this amount is \$7.50
 - Procedure code 80053 has a status indicator of A, which denotes services paid under a fee schedule or payment system other than OPPS. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403(h), for outpatient services for which Medicare reimburses using fee schedules other than OPPS, reimbursement is made using the applicable Division fee guideline in effect for that service on the date the service was provided. Facility payment for the technical component of this service is calculated according to the Medical Fee Guideline for Professional Services, §134.203(e)(1). The fee listed for this code in the Medicare Clinical Fee Schedule is \$15.44. 125% of this amount is \$19.30

- Procedure code 82150 has a status indicator of A, which denotes services paid under a fee schedule or payment system other than OPPS. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403(h), for outpatient services for which Medicare reimburses using fee schedules other than OPPS, reimbursement is made using the applicable Division fee guideline in effect for that service on the date the service was provided. Facility payment for the technical component of this service is calculated according to the Medical Fee Guideline for Professional Services, §134.203(e)(1). The fee listed for this code in the Medicare Clinical Fee Schedule is \$9.46. 125% of this amount is \$11.83
- Procedure code 83690 has a status indicator of A, which denotes services paid under a fee schedule or payment system other than OPPS. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403(h), for outpatient services for which Medicare reimburses using fee schedules other than OPPS, reimbursement is made using the applicable Division fee guideline in effect for that service on the date the service was provided. Facility payment for the technical component of this service is calculated according to the Medical Fee Guideline for Professional Services, §134.203(e)(1). The fee listed for this code in the Medicare Clinical Fee Schedule is \$10.06. 125% of this amount is \$12.58
- Procedure code 85025 has a status indicator of A, which denotes services paid under a fee schedule or payment system other than OPPS. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403(h), for outpatient services for which Medicare reimburses using fee schedules other than OPPS, reimbursement is made using the applicable Division fee guideline in effect for that service on the date the service was provided. Facility payment for the technical component of this service is calculated according to the Medical Fee Guideline for Professional Services, §134.203(e)(1). The fee listed for this code in the Medicare Clinical Fee Schedule is \$11.35. 125% of this amount is \$14.19
- Procedure code 81001 has a status indicator of A, which denotes services paid under a fee schedule or payment system other than OPPS. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.403(h), for outpatient services for which Medicare reimburses using fee schedules other than OPPS, reimbursement is made using the applicable Division fee guideline in effect for that service on the date the service was provided. Facility payment for the technical component of this service is calculated according to the Medical Fee Guideline for Professional Services, §134.203(e)(1). The fee listed for this code in the Medicare Clinical Fee Schedule is \$4.63. 125% of this amount is \$5.79
- Procedure code 71010 has a status indicator of X, which denotes ancillary services paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 0260, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$44.70. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$26.82. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.8785 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$23.56. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$17.88. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$41.44. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$1,800. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$41.44. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$82.88.
- Procedure code 72040 has a status indicator of X, which denotes ancillary services paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 0260, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$44.70. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$26.82. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.8785 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$23.56. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$17.88. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$41.44. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$1,800. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$41.44. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$82.88.
- Procedure code 72100 has a status indicator of X, which denotes ancillary services paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 0260, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$44.70. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$26.82. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.8785 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$23.56. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$17.88. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$41.44. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$1,800. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$41.44. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$82.88.
- Procedure code 72170 has a status indicator of X, which denotes ancillary services paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 0260, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$44.70. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$26.82. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.8785 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$23.56. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$17.88. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$41.44. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$1,800. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$41.44. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$82.88.

- Procedure code 70450 has a status indicator of Q3, which denotes conditionally packaged codes that may be paid through a composite APC. If OPPS criteria are met, this service is assigned to composite APC 8006. This service meets the criteria for composite payment. A service that is assigned to a composite APC is a major component of a single episode of care. The hospital receives one payment through a composite APC for multiple major separately identifiable services. Payment for any combination of designated procedures performed on the same date is packaged into a single payment. If a claim includes a composite payment that pays for more than one otherwise separately paid service, the charges for all services included in the composite are summed up to one line. To determine outlier payments, a single cost for the composite APC is estimated from the summarized charges. Total packaged cost is allocated to the composite line-item in proportion to other separately paid services on the claim. The payment for composite services is calculated below.
- Procedure code 72193 has a status indicator of Q3, which denotes conditionally packaged codes that may be paid through a composite APC. If OPPS criteria are met, this service is assigned to composite APC 8006. This service meets the criteria for composite payment. A service that is assigned to a composite APC is a major component of a single episode of care. The hospital receives one payment through a composite APC for multiple major separately identifiable services. Payment for any combination of designated procedures performed on the same date is packaged into a single payment. If a claim includes a composite payment that pays for more than one otherwise separately paid service, the charges for all services included in the composite are summed up to one line. To determine outlier payments, a single cost for the composite APC is estimated from the summarized charges. Total packaged cost is allocated to the composite line-item in proportion to other separately paid services on the claim. The payment for composite services is calculated below.
- Procedure code 74160 has a status indicator of Q3, which denotes conditionally packaged codes that may be paid through a composite APC. If OPPS criteria are met, this service is assigned to composite APC 8006. This service meets the criteria for composite payment. A service that is assigned to a composite APC is a major component of a single episode of care. The hospital receives one payment through a composite APC for multiple major separately identifiable services. Payment for any combination of designated procedures performed on the same date is packaged into a single payment. If a claim includes a composite payment that pays for more than one otherwise separately paid service, the charges for all services included in the composite are summed up to one line. To determine outlier payments, a single cost for the composite APC is estimated from the summarized charges. Total packaged cost is allocated to the composite line-item in proportion to other separately paid services on the claim. The payment for composite services is calculated below.
- Per Medicare policy, procedure code 96360 may not be reported with procedure code 99285 billed on the same claim. Payment for this service is included in the payment for the primary procedure. Separate payment is not recommended.
- Procedure code 96361 has a status indicator of S, which denotes a significant procedure, not subject to multiple-procedure discounting, paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 0436, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$24.89. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$14.93. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.8785 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$13.12. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$9.96. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$23.08 multiplied by 2 units is \$46.16. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$1,800. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$46.16. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$92.32.
- Per Medicare policy, procedure code 96372 may not be reported with procedure code 96374 billed on the same claim. Payment for this service is included in the payment for the primary procedure. Separate payment is not recommended.
- Per Medicare policy, procedure code 96374 may not be reported with procedure code 96360 billed on the same claim. Payment for this service is included in the payment for the primary procedure. Separate payment is not recommended.
- Per Medicare policy, procedure code 96375 may not be reported with procedure code 72183 billed on the same claim. Payment for this service is included in the payment for the primary procedure. Separate payment is not recommended.
- Procedure code 99285 has a status indicator of Q3, which denotes conditionally packaged codes that may be paid through a composite APC if OPPS criteria are met; however, review of the submitted information finds that the criteria for composite payment have not been met. Therefore, this line may be paid separately. These services are classified under APC 0616, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$323.90. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$194.34. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.8785 yields an adjusted labor-related amount

of \$170.73. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$129.56. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$300.29. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$1,800. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$300.29. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$600.58.

- Procedure code J0690 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code J2270 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code J2550 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code J7030 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code Q9967 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code 90714 has a status indicator of N, which denotes packaged items and services with no separate APC payment; payment is packaged into the reimbursement for other services, including outliers.
 - Procedure code 93005 has a status indicator of S, which denotes a significant procedure, not subject to multiple-procedure discounting, paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 0099, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$26.09. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$15.65. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.8785 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$13.75. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$10.44. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$24.19. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$1,800. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$24.19. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$48.38.
 - Procedure codes 70450, 72193, and 74160, have a status indicator of Q3, which denotes conditionally packaged codes that may be paid through a composite APC. A service that is assigned to a composite APC is a major component of a single episode of care. The hospital receives one payment through a composite APC for multiple major separately identifiable services. Payment for any combination of designated procedures performed on the same date is packaged into a single payment. These services are assigned to composite APC 8006, for computed tomography (CT) services including contrast. If a “without contrast” CT procedure is performed on the same date of service as a “with contrast” CT, APC 8006 is assigned rather than APC 8005. If a claim includes a composite payment that pays for more than one otherwise separately paid service, the charges for all services included in the composite are summed up to one line. To determine outlier payments, a single cost for the composite APC is estimated from the summarized charges. Total packaged cost is allocated to the composite line-item in proportion to other separately paid services on the claim. This line is assigned status indicator S, which denotes a significant procedure, not subject to multiple-procedure discounting, paid under OPPS with separate APC payment. These services are classified under APC 8006, which, per OPPS Addendum A, has a payment rate of \$635.10. This amount multiplied by 60% yields an unadjusted labor-related amount of \$381.06. This amount multiplied by the annual wage index for this facility of 0.8785 yields an adjusted labor-related amount of \$334.76. The non-labor related portion is 40% of the APC rate or \$254.04. The sum of the labor and non-labor related amounts is \$588.80. The cost of these services does not exceed the annual fixed-dollar threshold of \$1,800. The outlier payment amount is \$0. The total Medicare facility specific reimbursement amount for this line is \$588.80. This amount multiplied by 200% yields a MAR of \$1,177.60.
4. The total allowable reimbursement for the services in dispute is \$2,321.59. This amount less the amount previously paid by the insurance carrier of \$2,745.16 leaves an amount due to the requestor of \$0.00. No additional reimbursement can be recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Division finds that the requestor has not established that additional reimbursement is due.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

Authorized Signature

_____	_____	October 9, 2013
Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	Date

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute may appeal this decision by requesting a contested case hearing. A completed **Request for a Medical Contested Case Hearing** (form **DWC045A**) must be received by the DWC Chief Clerk of Proceedings within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. A request for hearing should be sent to: Chief Clerk of Proceedings, Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers Compensation, P.O. Box 17787, Austin, Texas, 78744. The party seeking review of the MDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request for a hearing to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision* together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §148.3(c), including a **certificate of service demonstrating that the request has been sent to the other party.****

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.